

Saturday morning
June 28, 1862.

Dear Mr Garrison.

81

Your copperplate note puts me to the blush, it is such a reproach to my illegible writing. — So does your kind proposition that I should write what might be offered to the meeting at Frammingham. I am not competent. "If ~~it~~ were as easy as to know what were good to do, chapels had been churches & cottages palaces." But after reading carefully the parliamentary reports in two papers — the Daily News & the Morning Post I do not discover that the right of visitation is relinquish-
ed. They are not "masters of the situa-
tion", & they are obliged by necessity to maine its exercise. Between the actual fire of India & the Anticipation one of Louis Napoleon, Great Britain must recall her Cruisers from the W. I. Seas, & in the stunned & sur-
prised moment of hearing our abolitionists as they think them-
selves ^{& around} without ^{our} slaveholders to bluster & bully, they seek the Xth gentleman's resource, of extreme probities, to

avoid the other alternative the
Sword: - à la Chesterfield. But
I really do not believe they
will back out of any thing
but the Caribbean Sea, for the
present.

I am hardly compe-
tent to write a column
for the Standard on this matter.
Yet I have ventured to do it,
and if great Britain is worse
that I think her, it will do no
harm, for I shall fling her to
the slave-holder's dogs, the moment
the time is fully come. - I

enclose what I have written
in which, if there is want of
clearness & accuracy, it is because
I will not assume to give all
parties a catechism of distinctions
in a ^{moral} legal matter which does not
matter - seeing that if men
can't find, they can make law
for just what they want.

But I will not ^{wholly} give up the
phrase right of search; for I
have seen enough at sea, &
learned enough of sailors, to
know that, while alleging

Examination of the Sails, &
Search for Contraband articles,
on board a Neutral vessel on
its way to the Enemy — (this
is belligerent right of search)
it must be sometimes insisted
that the ship's hatches be raised, to
find slaves. ^(perhaps right of search) & the warrant for
it, is the Treaty of Ghent &
its pledged best endeavours on
both sides. But there is a principle
of public law, & there is cry of
Nature stronger than the claim
for self-defence, anterior to treaty.

I do not think it will do
to express our sense of what
any friend is doing for our
cause through the Press, by name.
It takes from the weight in their
view, to say too much about the
edge: & it is besides, a breach of
confidence. I would compliment
the daily News if I dared,
but before they can consult H. M.
there will be now & then ^{be} a moment
when they are obliged to tell our
somebody in the office for the word that
is to make the paper ready for next morning's
run, — & that word has sometimes

to be unsaid, or written once
at least. Undoubtedly, just at
this moment, ~~there~~ is an
article, (June 18th) which, (and
anxiety to stand by the govern-
ment in recalling the Cruisers
to be ready for whatever may
burst out of Cherbourg at
any hour,) goes too far, &
says it would be quixotic in
S. B. to go on as she has
done. So it might, perhaps, the
circumstances ~~being~~ ^{but her change is not a quixotic}
changed, — but the article
is better left to die, & for us ^{now} to
praise that paper would be
to provoke some one to cite that
article: & the ship hardly needs a
rebuke, as there will be a review
as soon as H. M. gets on the
ground. I think the Spirit of
England - S. B. as a nation,
is never the Spirit of the
London Times, & that we
might discriminate between
& stock jobbing company.

and the world should not have been

Wells

bad writing - (which I will
say is half owing to a gold
pen & no pen knife,)

I am truly
always yours

A. M. Chapman.

I meant to have en-
closed my article, but
as there is a note about

your review it is easier
to forward to Mr Johnson
I am obliged to forward it
with all its imperfections
on its head, without the
advantage of your criticism
which I hoped to obtain
for it.